Case No: YAMAP0755US

PATENT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents address below.

X being transmitted via facsimile to (703) 872-9306 (Centralized Facsimile Number) at the U.S. Patent and

Trademark Office to the Attention of Examiner Michael V. Battaglia.

Mark D. Saralino

March 1, 2004 Date

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAR 0 1 2004

In re application of: Toshiyuki FUKUSHIMA et al.

Serial No.:

09/802,794

Filing Date: March 9, 2001

For:

INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, INFORMATION RECORDING

AND REPRODUCTION METHOD, AND INFORMATION RECORDING

AND REPRODUCTION APPARATUS

Examiner:

Michael V. Battaglia

Art Unit:

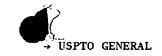
2652

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 29, 2004

Sir:

Claims 1-77 are pending in the application and are subject to a restriction requirement.



Serial No.: 09/802,794

Applicants hereby elect Group IV (Claims 26-32 and 58-64) without traverse. Examination of claims 26-32 and 58-64 on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

Mark D. Saralino Reg. No. 34,243

DATE: March 1, 2004

The Keith Building 1621 Euclid Avenue Nineteenth Floor Cleveland, Ohio 44115 (216) 621-1113 C:IGENYAMAlyamap755.rsLwpd